Preventive Services Guidelines

Women's Health



Aetna adopts clinical preventive services recommendations from federal agencies and medical professional organizations. These include the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) http://www.ahrq.gov/ clinic/prevenix.htm, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) http://www.cancer.gov/ cancertopics/screening for preventive screenings, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) http://www.cdc.gov/nip/ACIP/ default.htm for immunizations. In the absence of a definitive recommendation from these sources, we recognize recommendations from other nationally recognized sources, such as the American Cancer Society (ACS).

This document summarizes general immunization and screening guidelines for women ages 18 and older. These preventive services guidelines are recommended for healthy women for the prevention and early detection of certain conditions and diseases. Patients with high-risk conditions are encouraged to talk with their health care provider about the guidelines to determine what is appropriate for their individual needs. You'll find full content of the guidelines through the website links provided.

Full content of the immunization guidelines can be found at http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/adult-schedule.htm. Full content of screenings can be found at http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/prevenix.htm

IMMUNIZATION/SCREENINGS (WOMEN)	ADMINISTRATION
Blood Pressure	Periodically — 18 years and older
Height, Weight/Body Mass Index (BMI)	Periodically — 18 years and older
Cholesterol	Every 5 years — 45 years and older
Cervical Cancer Screening*	Every 1 – 2 years** — Beginning at age 21 or earlier if sexually active; if 30 years and older, either a Pap smear every 2 to 3 years after 3 consecutive normal results or HPV DNA test plus a Pap smear every 3 years if results of both tests are negative. Women 70 years and older may stop screening.
Mammogram	Every 1 – 2 years — 40 years and older
Chlamydia Test	Routinely — 25 years and younger and sexually active
Colorectal Cancer Screening***	Starting at age 50, yearly stool blood test (FOBT), OR flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years, OR yearly stool blood test plus flexible sigmoidoscopy every 5 years, OR double contrast barium enema every 5 years, OR colonoscopy every 10 years
Bone Mineral Density Test	Routinely — 65 years and older
Influenza	Annually — 50 years and older
Pneumococcal	1 dose — 65 years and older
Tetanus-diphtheria	Every 10 years — 18 years and older
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)	1– 2 doses — for adults without a history of infection or previous immunization
Varicella-Zoster (Chicken Pox)	2 doses – at least 4-8 weeks apart for adults without a history of chicken pox or previous immunization
Alcohol misuse screening and behavioral health counseling intervention	Routinely — 18 years and older
Depression Screening	Routinely — 18 years and older

^{*}Cervical cancer screening recommendations are based on recommendations from the American Cancer Society. http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/PED_2_3X_ACS_Cancer_Detection_Guidelines_36.asp

The guidelines are provided for informational purposes only and are not intended to direct coverage or benefit determinations, nor are they intended to direct treatment decisions.

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^{**}Every two years when using the newer liquid-based Pap test.

^{***}Double contrast barium enema and colonoscopy recommendations are based on recommendations from the American Cancer Society. http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/content/PED_2_3X_ACS_ Cancer_Detection_Guidelines_36.asp